Language Arts Reflection

This year we worked on many different skills in Language Arts. While we worked on these skills we did a major piece for this year. My favorite piece was the fiction writing piece. I liked this because I would get to use the skills I had learned beforehand. I also liked it because we would get to use our imagination to create whatever we wanted in this piece and that we would be able to do what we wanted instead of having to stick to some rules about what to write. This is why I chose the fiction piece because I hate having to follow rules.

In the fiction writing we had to do many things to make our pieces seem vivid. We had to create a character and show their internal and external traits. We also had to have a detailed setting which would make the story seem more livable and life-like. These things helped enhance the way the story felt. They also made the story seem believable so that it would be like real life instead of being a story. In doing so it would make the reader feel like they were there.

The fiction writing also took a lot of thought. We had to plan out the story at first and then make a story map which would show how the events would take place and when. These story maps were only a smidge of what the real thing would be but helped a lot with planning the story. The map included the character’s hopes, wants, and desires, the character’s obstacles, the story problem, the climax, and a resolution that would wrap up the story. This sounds like a lot of things to consider but this would end up being worth it.

Here is an excerpt from my writing piece:

During his time out in the wild, one thing kept him awake, restless without being to sleep. Loneliness. Every night it bothered him. Steve didn’t know what the word “family” meant. His heart felt like being abandoned by his parents where nobody lived but Steve did not know what “Parents” were or what their purpose was. He had never felt loved by someone and it left a sort of emptiness in his heart as if someone had lost their best friend they had known their entire life, every time he had killed an animal because they were the only other thing that he had known. No one had ever said “Hey, great job today hunting!” because the only person he had to gather food for was himself. He was always full and never was starving. Steve had never met another person in his entire time in the world, which had left a form of coldness like an artic glacier that stayed inside him every time he looked out on his porch waiting for someone to come, as if they had been stuck in the jungle and were just waiting to come and see him. But, of course, this did not happen as Steve silently walked back into his house, wishing he had never gone alone in the world, waiting sadly for a companion. Tears came to his eyes like a storm and he waited for somebody to come and see him as he wanted someone to share his meals with, to hunt with, someone to be like his brother although Steve had never had a brother or a sister. He wanted someone to talk to and to share his accomplishments with, because Steve wanted to see someone like himself, as his independence scared him away from having friends with even animals because he had to use what they had for his survival although he had enough food to last him months. Why he thought? Why was he left alone? He was determined to find out why. Whether he couldn’t or could, he was going to.

As a writer I believe I have improved in my writing. The one writing skill that I am good at is details in a piece because of the fact that I have a large vocabulary which allows me to get exactly what a scene looks like. This is why in many of my pieces I can create something that if you imagined would look like the real thing if the scene was supposed to be real. A writing skill I can especially improve on is my dialogue. I believe I can do better with this because I cannot really understand whether I should put dialogue in a story or not. It is also confusing where to put some of the quotation marks and I usually spend a large amount on conversation. In conclusion, I believe that there are things that I can improve on such as conversation and that there are things that I do good at such as details in a piece.